

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action mailed April 20, 2004 has been carefully considered. After such consideration, independent Claims 1, 17 and 32 have been amended to more particularly define the applicant's present invention over the references cited by the Examiner. Specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the fuel dispensing system includes a reset delay module. Claim 17 has been amended to clarify that the pump controller for the fuel dispensing system includes a bus including at least one accessory control signal line. Claim 32 has been amended to clarify that the fuel dispensing system includes an emergency system reset having a reset delay module. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1, 4-6, 10-25, 27, 28, 30-32, 34-36, 38, and 40-60 along with new Claims 61-64 in view of the following:

Claims 1, 4-7, 11 and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meyer et al., Patent No. 5,874,787. Claims 17-19, 21-22, 24-25, 28, 32, 34-37, 41-48, 50-51, 53-55 and 57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mercer, Patent No. 6,158,618. Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al., Patent No. 5,874,787 in view of Wright et al., Patent No. 2,935,025. Claims 27 and 56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mercer 6,158,618 in view of Schneider 4,719,532. Claim 41 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mercer, Patent No. 6,158,618 in view of Meyer et al., Patent No. 5,874,787. Claims 8-10, 20, 23, 29-3, 38-40, 49, 52 and 58-60 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 9, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base Claim 1. As a result, amended independent Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 4-6 and 10-16 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 29, which also was indicated as allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in

independent form including all the limitations of base Claim 17. As a result, amended independent Claim 17 and its dependent Claims 18-25, 27, 28 and 30-31 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 32 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 39, which also was indicated as allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base Claim 32. As a result, amended independent Claim 32 and its dependent Claims 38, and 40-60 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

New independent Claim 61 has been added to further define the Applicants' invention. Specifically, new Claim 61 includes limitations found as original in Claim 1 along with the allowable matter found in original dependent Claim 10. Thus, no new matter has been added as a result of adding new independent Claim 61. Likewise, its dependents are also drawn from matter as originally claimed.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant submits that by this amendment, he has placed the case in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. However, if any issue remains unresolved, Applicant's attorney would welcome the opportunity for a telephone interview to expedite allowance and issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward W. Rilee  
Registration No. 31,869  
MacCord Mason PLLC  
Post Office Box 2974  
Greensboro, NC 27401  
(336) 273-4422

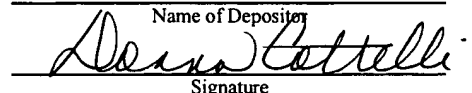
Date: June 10, 2004  
File No.: 1370-021

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON JUNE 10, 2004

Donna Cottelli

Name of Depositor



Signature

6-10-04

Date of Signature